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#### CLAUDETTE FALACK

Plaintiff(s),

v.

CHASE BANK USA, N.A., and JOHN DOES 1-25,

Defendant(s)

THE UNITED STATES
DISTRICT COURT FOR
THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

**CIVIL ACTION:** 

COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs **CLAUDETTE FALACK**("<u>Plaintiff</u>"), by and through their attorneys, **THE LAW OFFICES OF BENJAMIN G. KELSEN, ESQ. LLC**, as and for their Complaint against the Defendant **CHASE BANK USA, N.A.** (hereinafter referred to as "<u>Defendant</u>"), respectfully sets forth, complains and alleges, upon information and belief, the following:

### INTRODUCTION/PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of themselves for damages and declaratory and injunctive relief arising from the Defendant's violation(s) under Title 47 of the United States Code, §227 commonly known as the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA).

#### **PARTIES**

- 2. Plaintiffs is a resident of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean and the State of New Jersey.
- 3. Defendant **CHASE BANK USA, N.A.** ("Chase") is a national banking association with its headquarters located at 270 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10017.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 4. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 USC §1331.
- 5. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2).

# FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (CHASE BANK, INC.'s Violations of the TCPA)

- 6. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs above herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 7. On information and belief, on a date better known to the Defendant, began its campaign of communicating with the Plaintiff via the use of an automated telephone dialing system and prerecorded messages for the purposes of collecting debts for two separate credit card accounts, Mary Kay and United Mileage Plus, since December of 2015 to the present by calling the Plaintiff **CLAUDETTE FALACK** on her cell phone number of 732-228-1199 in excess of 140 times.
- 8. The Plaintiff is the sole subscriber of the cellular telephone account bearing the phone number of 732-228-1199, and has been the sole subscriber of that account at all times relevant hereto.
- 9. The Plaintiff is the sole party financially responsible for the payment of the account bearing the phone number of 732-228-1199, and has been the sole party financially responsible for that account at all times relevant hereto.
- 10. Plaintiff **CLAUDETTE FALACK** is the customary and sole user of the cellular phone number 732-228-1199, and has been the customary and sole user of that phone number at all times relevant hereto.
- 11. The Defendant called from numerous phone numbers, including but not limited to 847-426-9203 and 210-520-0004. Said numbers belongs to Defendant.
- 12. On or about December 15, 2015, Plaintiff **CLAUDETTE FALACK** called the Defendant and after following the directions of the robotic voice on the other line, was connected to a live representative on the line. At said time Plaintiff requested that the Defendant stop calling her cell phone, in relation to her Mary Kay account.
- 13. On or about January 10, 2016, Plaintiff **CLAUDETTE FALACK** called the Defendant and after following the directions of the robotic voice on the other line, was connected to a live representative on the line. At said time Plaintiff requested that the Defendant stop calling her cell phone, in relation to her United Milage Plus account.

- 14. The Plaintiff **CLAUDETTE FALACK** never gave the Defendant his prior, express permission to call his cell phone via the use of an automated telephone dialing system or prerecorded voice and, as stated above, on two separate occasions requested that the Defendant cease and desist from doing so.
- 15. Plaintiffs had no wish to be contacted on their cell phone via the use of an autodialer or prerecorded voice, and expressly directed Defendant to stop calling the cell phone number multiple times.
- 16. Defendant refused to cease calling the Plaintiff's cellular phone, and continued to call the Plaintiff's cellular phone via the use of an automated telephone dialing system and prerecorded voice.
- 17. By placing auto-dialed calls and prerecorded messages to the Plaintiff's cell phone, the Defendant violated 47 USC §227(b)(A)(iii) which prohibits using any automated telephone dialing system or an artificial prerecorded voice to any telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone service when calling to the plaintiff's cell phone.
- 18. The Defendant therefore willfully violated the TCPA numerous times by placing autodialed calls and prerecorded messages to the Plaintiff's cell phone after they expressly instructed the Defendant to cease calling.
- 19. As a direct result of Defendant's placement of calls to Plaintiff, Plaintiff was further deprived of the use of their cellular phone during the times that the Defendant was calling their phone, along with the nuisance that readily comes with receiving auto dialed phone calls.
- 20. Defendant's communication efforts attempted and/or directed towards the Plaintiff violated various provisions of the TCPA, including but not limited to 47 USC §227(b)(A)(iii).
- 21. As a result of Defendant's violations of the TCPA, Plaintiffs have been damaged and are entitled to damages in accordance with the TCPA.

### **DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY**

22. Plaintiffs hereby respectfully request a trial by jury for all claims and issues in the Complaint to which they are or may be entitled to a jury trial.

### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

- 23. **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs respectfully prays that judgment be entered against the Defendants as follows:
  - a. For mandatory statutory damages of \$500 each provided and pursuant to 47 USC \$227(c)(2)(G)(3)(B), for all calls placed to the Plaintiffs' cellular phone;
  - b. Plaintiffs request enhanced trebled damages of \$1,500 to be awarded to the Plaintiffs per call, in accordance with the TCPA, for the Defendant's willful violations of the TCPA;
  - c. For any such other and further relief, as well as further costs, expenses and disbursements of this action, as this Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: August 10, 2016

Benjamin G. Kelsen, Esq.
THE LAW OFFICES OF
BENJAMIN G. KELSEN, ESQ. LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

## **DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY**

Pursuant to Rule 38(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, demands a trial by jury on all questions of fact raised by the complaint.

Dated: August 10, 2016

Benjamin G. Kelsen, Esq. THE LAW OFFICES OF

BENJAMIN G. KELSEN, ESQ. LLC

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

## **CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 11.2**

I, **BENJAMIN G. KELSEN**, the undersigned attorney of record for Plaintiff, do hereby certify to my own knowledge and based upon information available to me at my office, the matter in controversy is not the subject of any other action now pending in any court or in any arbitration or administrative proceeding.

Dated: August 10, 2016

Benjamin G. Kelsen, Esq.
THE LAW OFFICES OF

BENJAMIN G. KELSEN, ESQ. LLC

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

## **DOCUMENT PRESERVATION DEMAND**

Plaintiff(s) hereby demands that each defendant take affirmative steps to preserve all recordings, data, documents, and all other tangible things that relate to plaintiff, the events described herein, any third party associated with any telephone call, campaign, account, sale or file associated with plaintiff, and any account or number or symbol relating to them. These materials are likely very relevant to the litigation of this claim. If any defendant is aware of any third party that has possession, custody, or control of any such materials, plaintiff demands that defendant request that such third party also take steps to preserve the materials. This demand shall not narrow the scope of any independent document preservation duties of the defendants.

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Dated: <u>August 10, 2016</u>		Benjamin G. Kelsen, Esq. THE LAW OFFICES OI BENJAMIN G. KELSEN Attorneys for Plaintiff	F N, ESQ. LLC
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